

Application No. 10/760,650

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims as indicated:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of counting a plurality of pipe segments at a well, comprising producing a magnetic field near the well with a magnetic field detection device embedded into a wiper rubber positioned around the exterior of the pipe segments adjacent to a wellhead, moving the plurality of pipe segments into or out of the well, detecting the changes in the magnetic field, caused by the passing of the pipe segment connectors through the magnetic field and counting the number of changes in the magnetic field to thereby produce a pipe segment count.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of pipe segments are selected from the group consisting of joints of casing, tubing and rods.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the pipe segment connectors are selected from the group consisting of couplings and collars.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the magnetic field detection device is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic induction device, a single magnet, two permanent magnets with like poles pointed in the same direction, Hall effect transducers, magneto sensors, and an energized coil of wire.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the changes in the magnetic flux are detected by voltmeter attached to a coil of wire placed near the magnetic field detection device.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the changes in magnetic field are counted using a device selected from the group consisting of a relay-driven stepping mechanical counter and a GUI.

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7. (Original) The process of Claim 1, wherein the pipe segment count is fed into a computer system.
8. (Original) The process of Claim 7, wherein the pipe segment count is automatically fed onto an automatic spreadsheet.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 1[[0]], wherein the magnetic field detection device is selected from a group consisting of a coil of wire or a Hall sensor.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising a processing module to filter the signal from the magnetic flux measuring device.
12. (Original) The method Claim 11, wherein the process module produces a pulse signal based on the filtered magnetic flux measuring device signal, wherein the pulse is indicative of the number of pipe segments passing onto or out of the well.
13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein a counter counts the number of pulses.
14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein an alarm sounds each time a pipe segment passing into or out of the well.
15. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the number of pipe segments passing onto or out of the well is shown on a display.

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16. (Currently Amended) A method of counting a plurality of pipe segments at a well, comprising producing a magnetic field near the well with a magnetic field measuring device, moving the plurality of pipe segments into or out of the well, detecting the changes in the magnetic field caused by the passing of the pipe segment connectors through the magnetic field, employing a processing module to filter noise in the signal from the magnetic field measuring device, ~~and counting the number of changes in the magnetic field to thereby produce a pipe segment count; and feeding the pipe segment count into a computer system.~~

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the changes in the magnetic flux are detected by voltmeter attached to a coil of wire placed near the magnetic field detection device.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 18, wherein the pipe segment count is automatically fed onto an automatic spreadsheet.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 16, wherein the magnetic field measuring device is embedded into or molded into a wiper rubber.

21. (Previously Presented) The method Claim 16, wherein the process module produces a pulse signal based on the filtered magnetic field measuring device signal, wherein the pulse is indicative of the number of pipe segments passing onto or out of the well.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 22, wherein a counter counts the number of pulses.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein an alarm sounds each time a pipe segment passing into or out of the well.

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24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the number of pipe segments passing onto or out of the well is shown on a display.